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PATENT APPLICATION *Election*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tsuyoshi TAMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2826

Application No.: 09/981,734

Examiner: Johannes P. Mondt

Filed: October 19, 2001

Docket No.: 110927

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT USING SAME

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the September 18, 2002 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-15, drawn to a semiconductor device, classified in class 257, subclass 99, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-21 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Eric D. Morehouse
Registration No. 38,565

JAO:EDM/gam

Date: October 17, 2002

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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